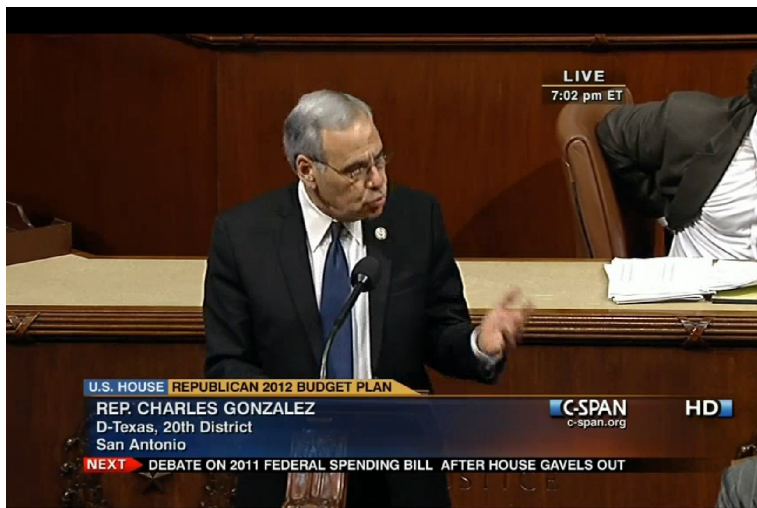


Gonzalez: Republican Budget Is Not a Pathway to Prosperity, It Is a Dead End

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WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Charles Gonzalez (TX - 20) made the following statement on the House Floor yesterday in opposition to the fiscal year 2012 Republican budget proposal:



[Click here to watch the video](#)

“Thank you Mister Chairman.

“At the heart of the Republican’s budget proposal is the thought, and I quote directly, ‘The number of ‘makers’ diminishes and the number of ‘takers’ grows. As a result our government and economy and country will collapse. Forget about the impoverished view that this offers us; a vision of an America that can’t be bothered or is unable to care for anyone who needs help.’

“So let’s have a discussion on who truly would be the ‘taker’ and who truly would be the ‘maker’.

“People who manipulate an unfair tax system at the expense of millions of others: ‘makers,’ when you look at the Republican proposal. Corporations that don’t invest in their own country, pay a lower tax rate on their profits than their employees would pay on a \$40,000 salary: those are ‘makers’ under the Republican plan. Wall Street firms that ruined our financial system then asked working families to bail them out while they paid billions in bonuses: those are also ‘makers’ under the Republican plan.

“Yes, that’s who the Republicans have identified as the ‘makers’ and it rewards them quite handsomely in their proposal. Their budget would perpetuate a taxation and employment system that has resulted in stagnant wages for workers and allows 5% of the wealthiest among us to enjoy 66% of all the wealth while 80% of Americans share only less than 13%.

Now who would be the ‘takers’ under this Republican plan?

“9.4 million students working towards a college degree so they could get a good job and contribute to this economy, whose Pell Grants would be slashed. 218,000 low-income kids and families who will be removed from the Head Start, depriving them of a decent education. Again, ‘takers’ under the Republican plan.

“2,400 schools that serve one million low-income students across the country that would have to shut their doors. ‘Takers’ under the Republican plan. Countless seniors who would no longer be able to remain in nursing homes because of cuts in Medicaid funding. Those are the ‘takers.’

“You decide, America, who are the ‘takers’ and who are the ‘makers’? This is not a pathway to prosperity, it’s a dead end.”

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